

Story 812 (1974 Tape 18)

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Location: Olgunlar village, kaza
of Rafayık (Refahiye?),
Erzincan Province

Date: August 1974

A Personal Recollection

Once when I was younger I went to work for a few days on a farm in one of the villages of Suşehri.¹ When the first day's work was over, I went to my employer's house the night.

After dinner I went right to bed, for I was tired. But right away I noticed that there was something in the bed that was crawling over my body. It felt cold. I asked, "you have bedbugs here?"

"No, we do not have such things," they answered.

"But there is something crawling around on me. What can it be?" I felt that something soft was crawling all over my body. It was on my chest. It was on my arms. Now it was on my leg. I said, "Here it is! There it is! There it goes!" I tried to grab it, but by the time my hand got there, it was always gone, and I grabbed only myself.

As I was shouting, "Here it is! There it is!" my

¹ This is a kaza town in adjacent Sivas Province.

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employer's wife and children had come to the door of my room to see what could be the matter. I did not realize that they were there. I pulled off my trousers and finally caught it. It was a lizard.

I finally realized that everyone was looking at me as if I had gone mad. But I threw the lizard to them and went back to bed. I was very embarrassed by this little incident.